

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-33 (canceled)

Claim 34 (new): A method of forming a barrier against entry of water into a sub-floor ventilator of a building, which comprises adhesion of a self-adherent sealant material, such as a self-adherent pad, to an external surface of said sub-floor ventilator.

Claim 35 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 34, wherein the ventilator comprises at least one airbrick within a wall of said building.

Claim 36 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 34, in which the sealant material is adhered to said external surface including the periphery of the ventilator.

Claim 37 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 34, in which the sealant material is adhered to said external surface of the ventilator and to building material immediately surrounding the periphery of the ventilator.

Claim 38 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 37, in which the building material comprises brickwork and/or mortar immediately adjacent the periphery of the ventilator.

Claim 39 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 34, in which the sealant material incorporates a removable layer.

Claim 40 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 34, in which the sealant material is flexible or semi-flexible.

Claim 41 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 34, in which the sealant material is

formed as a self-adherent pad, or a portion from a roll of material.

Claim 42 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 34, in which the pad is resiliently pliable.

Claim 43 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 34, in which the sealant material comprises a composite material.

Claim 44 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 43, in which the composite material comprises a laminate of two or more layers.

Claim 45 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 44, in which one of the layers comprises a release liner and is separable from the other layer or layers.

Claim 46 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 44, in which the laminate comprises a backing substrate and an adhesive substrate and optionally a release liner.

Claim 47 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 46, in which the backing substrate comprises waterproof plastics film and/or metal foil and/or waterproof fabric material.

Claim 48 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 47, in which the waterproof plastics film is selected from the group consisting of polyester films, polyethylene films, polypropylene films, polyvinylchloride films, and combinations thereof.

Claim 49 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 46, wherein the metal foil comprises aluminum foil optionally laminated to polyethylene or polypropylene film.

Claim 50 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 46, in which the waterproof fabric material is selected from polyester non-woven fabric and polypropylene non-woven fabric.

Claim 51 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 47, in which the adhesive is a rubber based adhesive selected from the group consisting of butylrubber, polyisobutylene rubber, EPR, SBR, natural rubber, thermoplastic rubbers, SIS, SBS and SEBS.

Claim 52 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 46, in which the adhesive layer comprises rubber and at least one component selected from the group consisting of bitumen, organic filler, tackifying resin, rosin esters, mineral filler, polybutene plasticiser, mineral oil plasticiser, processing aids, anti-oxidant and pigment.

Claim 53 (new): A method as claimed in Claim 46, in which a release liner is included in the laminate prior to application thereof to the sub-floor ventilator, and which liner is comprised of at least one material selected from the group consisting of siliconized plastic film, siliconized low density polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester, high density polyethylene and siliconized paper.

Claim 54 (new): A method of forming a barrier as claimed in Claim 34, in which the sealant material includes a removable liner, optionally as defined in Claim 53, and which method comprises the following steps:

- a) providing a self-adherent pad and release liner composite which is flexible or at least partly flexible,
- b) removing the release liner from the composite so as to expose an adherent surface of the pad,
- c) positioning the pad such that its exposed adherent surface is brought into contact with the exposed external surface of a sub-floor ventilator,
- d) applying the adherent surface of the pad to the said exposed surface of the ventilator and optionally into contact with the periphery of the ventilator and optionally into contact with building material surrounding the periphery of the said ventilator,
- e) applying a pressure to that surface of the pad remote from the said adherent surface to cause the pad to cover in a water-sealing manner the said external surface of the ventilator, and optionally
- f) removing the adhered pad from the ventilator after a flood condition or

threatened flood condition, and optionally

g) removing from the ventilator and/or the periphery of the ventilator and/or building material surrounding the periphery of the ventilator at least some excess adhesive material not removed in step f) above.

Claim 55 (new): A building having a wall structure provided with at least one sub-floor ventilator, wherein a sealant material such as a self-adherent pad is adhered to an external surface of said ventilator, forming a barrier against entry of water into said ventilator.

Claim 56 (new): A building as claimed in Claim 55, wherein the ventilator comprises at least one airbrick.

Claim 57 (new): A building as claimed in Claim 55, wherein the sealant material is adhered to said external surface including the periphery of the ventilator.

Claim 58 (new): A building as claimed in Claim 55, wherein the sealant material is adhered to said external surface of the ventilator and to building material immediately surrounding the periphery of the ventilator.

Claim 59 (new): A building as claimed in Claim 58, wherein the building material comprises brickwork and/or mortar immediately adjacent the periphery of the ventilator.

Claim 60 (new): A building as claimed in Claim 55, wherein the sealant material is as defined in Claim 39.